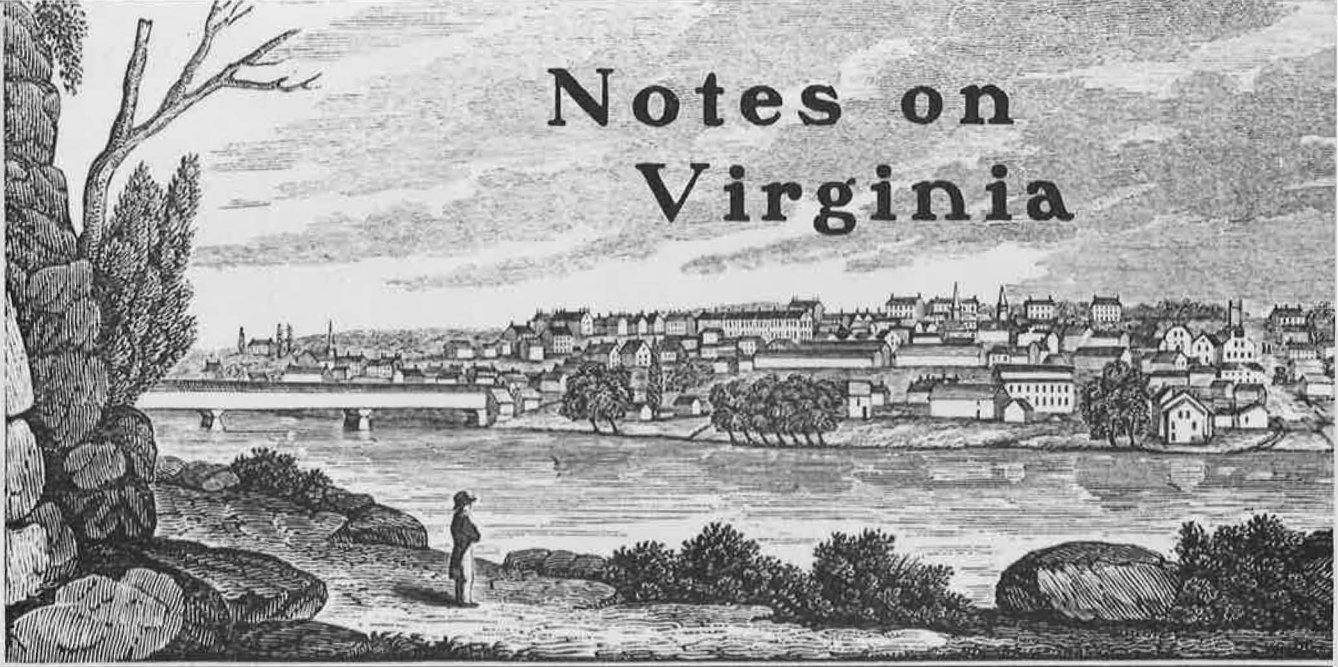


Notes on Virginia



A PUBLICATION OF THE VIRGINIA HISTORIC LANDMARKS COMMISSION

Number 10 Fall 1974

TOWARDS THE QUADRICENTENNIAL — PART II *

Arnold Toynbee has written of the American South — in contrast to England or the North during the latter nineteenth century — as a region wherein every child knows that history has happened to his people in his part of the world. Nowhere within this great region is history a more pervasive component of the environment than in Virginia: a fact attested to each year by tens of thousands of tourists who come here to visit Jamestown, where English America and the frontier experience began; or one or another of the successive homes of the ill-starred Mr. McLean, where the Army of Northern Virginia commenced and concluded its four years of arduous service.

But reflect for a moment: if Mount Vernon and Stratford Hall remain in their full splendor, Chantilly and Wakefield are long since reduced. The home of George Wythe stands, but not that of Edmund Pendleton. Rosewell burns but retains a measure of grandeur as a ruin for over a half century until, in 1972, tornado-like winds supply the *coup de grace*. The historic courthouse at Fincastle is more typical, goes more quickly, consumed by fire in a matter of hours.

The havoc wrought by fire or flood, ignorance or apathy, is permanent and irreversible. And such destructiveness — whether by the elements, or as an incident of human failure — has been no respecter of historically-important or aesthetically-pleasing buildings.

Even now, during the era of the Bicentennial, incompatible development threatens the visual integrity of such shrines as Mount Vernon and Jamestown. Even here, where a significant portion of the population depends for its livelihood on the continuing appeal to tourists of an historical ambience, private and public developers fail to consider the legitimate values of the preservationist and patriot in their planning.

THE PROBLEM

Why are so many significant and serviceable structures destroyed each year in every section of the Commonwealth? Negligence and ignorance we have always with us, and a bit of avarice too, but even with attentive stewardship a building or neighborhood may be lost. Urban growth or rural isolation, prosperity or economic stagnation may be indicted in turn. Nevertheless an Old Town Alexandria, like many rural holdings of merit, is maintained in good times and
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*The first portion of this article, an impressionistic overview and thematic outline of Virginia's past, appeared in the last issue of Notes, now out of print.

bad, generation after generation, while other properties similarly situated are obliterated.

"The people of our state are strangely negligent of even the most remarkable events of their history," opined a Virginian editor of the 1820's, "there is no association of traditions handed down by their forefathers, with the places where the events happened; but everything of this kind is passing rapidly into oblivion." So the situation remained sixty-five years later when an ancient brick ruin known as Powhatan's Chimney collapsed: "all of our Virginia landmarks are passing away, nothing is being done to save them, before long all will be gone."

While the latter episode has become a part of the lore of preservation in Virginia, precipitating as it did, the meetings which led to the formation of the Association for the Preservation of Virginia Antiquities, it has also a lesson for our own day. For a century-and-one half, there has been a prodigal waste of historic resources, which, even in this historic commonwealth, has had a cumulative effect.

G A Z E T T E

EASEMENTS for the further protection of the Waterford Historic District have recently been entered into with the VHLC by members of the Chamberlin family. Miss Eleanor Chamberlin has placed a scenic easement on 140 acres, and her nephews Robert W., John C., and David W. Chamberlin on a contiguous tract of 43 plus acres which, in combination protect the setting and western approach to the historic and picturesque Loudoun County village. The Commission already holds easements for ten properties within the Waterford Historic District itself.

While the VHLC is not directly involved, mention should be made of the easement and outright gift of property made to the National Park Service by Franz von Schilling, Jr. of Surry County. The property lies at and adjacent to Swann's Point across from Jamestown and contributes significantly to the historic and scenic ambiance of that area. Mr. von Schilling has donated outright the 130-acre Black Duck Gut natural area and placed a perpetual easement on his 284-acre Mount Pleasant plantation.

A PROGRAM

By 1965 it was evident to the members of a Virginia Advisory Legislative Council study commission that positive steps needed to be taken to conserve and safeguard the Commonwealth's dwindling historic resources. Preservation of man-made resources, like reclamation and conservation of natural resources, has increasingly come to be seen as a palliative for growth. Prosperity makes it both necessary and possible that large scale developers, public as well as private, turn their attention and resources to

"the perpetuation of those structures and areas which have a close and immediate relationship to the values upon which this State and the Nation were founded, and which serve as a means of illustrating to present and future generations the inherent worth of such values and the unchangeable truths thereby demonstrated."



VIRGINIA HISTORIC LANDMARKS COMMISSION

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NOTES ON VIRGINIA

Morson's Row
221 Governor Street
Richmond, Virginia 23219

(All photos by VHLC staff, except where noted)

Since the 1966 session of the General Assembly, this has been the public policy of the Commonwealth and the mandate of the Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission.

The VHLC is both a product of, and a response to, the affluence of recent years. The expansion of commercial, residential, and recreational facilities in and adjacent to the cities and towns of the Commonwealth, and the appearance of government as a large scale land developer, have brought tremendous new pressures to bear on many landmarks which survived the perils of history over three and one half centuries.

From the first, Virginia's historic preservation program has made its contribution to the quality and interest as well as the tax base of the community. The Historic Landmarks Commission has an experienced staff of professionals competent to provide a wide range of services to public officials, civic associations, property owners, architects, and planners. By the nature of its functions and the public it serves, the Commission gains a perspective and insights into areas of such contemporary importance as the land-use property rights dilemma, counter-productive aspects of the property tax system, and the rehabilitation of declining neighborhoods.

Historic preservation in Virginia is not limited to rescuing threatened structures. It is an attempt to identify, define, and secure in some form whatever of value remains of our physical heritage. While the Historic Landmarks Commission encourages the continued use, or the adaptive reuse of existing structures of significance — with special attention given to the total environment of historic districts that can be maintained as living parts of twentieth century communities — the work actually begins with structures and sites that have no future as such.

Archaeological sites, particularly colonial sites in the Alexandria-Richmond-Hampton Roads corridor are the most fragile of historic and cultural resources. The Commission, through its Office of Archaeology (see pages 14-15 of this issue of Notes) has undertaken a survey, with selected test and salvage excavations, of archaeological sites throughout the Commonwealth. Co-operation between Busch Properties, Inc. and the Landmarks Commission has transferred the development of the Kingsmill Plantation tract near Williamsburg into one of the single most significant archaeological digs in progress anywhere in America, and also into a classic example of how large-scale development can take place without sacrificing cultural resources.



"White's Mill, Washington County"

Buildings deemed unlikely candidates for preservation represent a potential source for the historian, architect, and planner, analogous to archaeological sites. By means of measured drawings, something of value may be retained from structures which were representative of disappearing styles or significant examples of the designers' or builders' crafts. Again, as with archaeological sites, lead time and outside financial support are essential. To date, some 215 sheets of measured drawings and numerous photographs have been produced under the joint sponsorship of the Landmarks Commission and the Historic American Building Survey.

Virginia's historic preservation program contributes to the quality and interest as well as the tax base of the community. The interests of the Commonwealth are best served where historic structures and districts are maintained as viable entities, "paying their way" in the fiscal — as well as the patriotic, cultural, and aesthetic — sense. To this end, the staff of the Historic Landmarks Commission is called upon to provide professional advice and technical assistance in a wide range of matters relative to the authentic restoration, appropriate adaptive use, rehabilitation, and interpretation of historic buildings and districts.

HISTORIC DISTRICTS AND EASEMENTS

At the request of local governing bodies or civic associations, or independently as an incident of its survey and register activities, the Historic Landmarks Commission has defined many and varied historic districts in the counties and cities of the Commonwealth. Such districts, ranging from a short city block or compact college quadrangle to large rural neighborhoods, have been designated after careful study and professional evaluation of the merits of each structure as well as the historic and aesthetic relationship of the whole.

Implementation of such districts by local ordinance provides for change and growth within an area without destruction of its aesthetically pleasing character through random and capricious demolition or drastic alteration of the facades of significant older structures. Another traditional device of the real property law that has been adapted to contemporary needs is the easement. By means of open space easements, owners are better able to resist undue pressures

to subdivide or commercially develop their properties.

Under the relevant laws of Virginia, the rights and usages of private ownership remain unimpaired, subject only to the restrictions concerning the historic or scenic character of the property agreed to in an easement. Where lands and buildings of historic and architectural significance are involved, the Historic Landmarks Commission staff is able to render a variety of services to the property owner in the ways and means of appropriate preservation and construction activity.

WAYS AND MEANS

The Historic Landmarks Commission, through its staff, oversees the expenditure of funds allocated by the state and federal governments for preservation activities. While such "bricks and mortar" funding does not begin to meet the need, as evidenced through the many meritorious requests, more than one-half million dollars of federal matching grant-in-aid funds has been awarded for projects in Virginia since July 1, 1971. The General Assembly has made appropriations on an ad hoc basis for twenty one projects since 1966; and in several Virginia cities, revolving funds have been established for preservation activities.

Federal money in the amount of \$147,855 has been awarded to assist with nineteen projects in Tidewater or on the Eastern Shore; \$129,397.70 has gone to further thirteen similar efforts in Northern Virginia and the central Piedmont regions; \$146,943.88 to Southside (fifteen projects); and \$77,892 to the Valley and Mountain areas of the Commonwealth for nine restoration enterprises. Additional federal monies have of necessity been diverted from similar projects in order to maintain an irreducible minimum of Landmarks Commission staff services.

Inquiries from principles are invited and should be submitted c/o Manager of Grants-in-Aid Program, VHLC, 221 Governor Street, Richmond 23219. Requests, with supporting materials, should be submitted no later than June 1, 1975, for projects, or segments thereof, scheduled to begin in 1976. Under terms of federal law, no funds are available for work completed or in progress at the time application is made for participation in the program.



THE VIRGINIA LANDMARKS REGISTER AND SURVEY

The General Assembly has directed the Landmarks Commission to prepare — with periodic publication — a register of historical, architectural, and archaeological places within the Commonwealth which are of statewide or national significance. The Commission's comprehensive survey of historic structures and sites, now nearing completion, was undertaken to provide a basis for nominations to the register as well as for the formulation of a statewide preservation program.

Since 1967, staff members from Richmond, with the assistance of regional representatives, and other interested individuals and groups, have visited and revisited every community in Virginia for the purpose of photographing and otherwise recording detailed information about local landmarks. As of June 30, 1974, the staff had assembled more or less complete files for 10,508 buildings, sites, and districts. This invaluable archive is one of a wide range of

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"An Old Virginia Plantation House: Meadow Farm, Henrico County"

services which the VHLC provides for persons interested in authentic restoration or planning projects.

The VHLC staff began preparation of nominations to the Virginia Landmarks Register during the fall of 1968. Nominations are reviewed by a committee of the Commission composed of persons experienced in the fields of history, architecture, landscape architecture, and archaeology. After review and endorsement by this committee, nominations are presented

to the Commission for its approval. As all Virginia landmarks are of statewide or national significance, each is nominated, in turn, to the National Register of Historic Places.

An installment of the Virginia Landmarks Register, containing brief statements on each of the then 213 registered properties, was published in July 1970. This publication, no longer in print, is supplemented, on an interim basis, through notices of new listings carried in each issue of Notes on Virginia.

G A Z E T T E

EASEMENTS: Staff architectural historians Jack L. Finglass and Calder C. Loth have been visiting historic easement properties around the state. In accordance with the terms of the easements entered into by the owners of the individual properties and the VHLC, these properties are visited annually by staff members at a mutually convenient time.

Mr. Loth has attended the recently concluded annual meeting of the Association for Preservation Technology at Halifax, Nova Scotia; while VHLC Archaeologist William Kelso was a participant in the annual program of the American Association for State and Local History. Kelso described the goals and achievements of the Kingsmill project (see pages 14-15). Mr. Loth's article, "Notes on the Evolution of Virginia Brickwork . . .," appeared in the APT Bulletin, Vol. VI, No. 2 (1974), pages 82-120.

The VHLC has been represented by Robert Swisher at several meetings relating to environmental matters and Federal preservation law, a National Park Service-sponsored meeting at Philadelphia, and a Virginia Department of Highways coordinated meeting at Charlottesville.

The **COMMUNITY MUSEUM PROGRAM**, a public service sponsored by the National Endowment for the Humanities, has been brought to the attention of the editor of Notes. Under the auspices of the program, experienced personnel have assisted museums in the development of community outreach and public education — craft programs, suitcase and travelling exhibits, lecture series, organization of volunteer programs and more effective use of local talents and skills, use of audio-visual aids, co-ordination with local school curriculums. In addition, the staff can draw on the expertise of the members of the National American Studies Faculty for specialized assistance (for example, a librarian has provided assistance to a museum interested in developing its rich archival resources; a colonial historian provided specific suggestions and information to a museum of the Revolutionary period).

The program is designed to help community museums in defining and articulating their goals and strategies, developing and implementing their programs. Enquiries may be addressed to: Patrick H. Butler III, 400 Woodland Terrace, Alexandria, Virginia 22302.

By the end of September, 1974, 539 properties were included in the Virginia Landmarks Register. The thirty-five more recent additions to the Register were:

TIDEWATER & EASTERN SHORE

LANDS END, GLOUCESTER COUNTY: This picturesque gambrel-roofed dwelling was built between 1796-1800 for John Sinclair, sea captain and privateer, chiefly remembered for carrying the message which brought the French fleet under de Barras from Newport, Rhode Island, to the support of Admiral de Grasse and General Washington at Yorktown.

TREE HILL, HENRICO COUNTY: Begun in the late-eighteenth century as a modest farm house, Tree Hill grew with the Selden and Roane family fortunes until, by the mid-nineteenth century it had evolved into one of Henrico County's most impressive plantation seats.

MEADOW FARM, HENRICO COUNTY: In August, 1800, two Meadow Farm Negroes gave timely warning of the impending slave revolt known to history as (Gabriel) Prosser's Rebellion. Mosby Sheppard, whose descendants remain in

possession of the property, notified Governor James Monroe and the insurrection was suppressed (see photographs on page 5).

MASON HOUSE, ACCOMACK COUNTY: Erected in the first half of the eighteenth century, the Mason House is an important and rare example of Jacobean-to-Georgian transitional architecture. The story-and-a-half brick farmhouse combines distinctive architectural elements associated with several periods and traditions.

WOODWARD HOUSE, RICHMOND: This simple frame two-and-one-half story, late-eighteenth century frame dwelling stands as a rare architectural survival of early Richmond and as the last remnant of the once-busy maritime and mercantile community of Rocketts.

MORGAN JONES 1677 POTTERY KILN, WEST-MORELAND COUNTY: The date and operator of the kiln are known from county records, while archaeological excavation has determined the kiln's form and supplied examples of its products, making it one of the most completely documented sites of a seventeenth century American craft.



BOYKIN'S TAVERN, ISLE OF WIGHT COUNTY: The only surviving structure associated with the Isle of Wight County courthouse of 1800, the tavern was built for Colonel Francis Boykin who was instrumental in arranging for the removal of the court from Smithfield.

HANOVER TOWN, HANOVER COUNTY: The eighteenth-century port village of Hanover Town grew up beside tobacco warehouses on the uppermost point on the Pamunkey River navigable for cargo ships. Hanover Town, like other colonial centers whose growth had been artificially induced by the needs of the British Empire, did not long survive the loss of its economic functions following Independence.

PLEASANT POINT, SURRY COUNTY: The terraced formal landscaping of this early to mid-eighteenth century plantation complex, long the seat of the Edwards family, leads down to the bluffs overlooking the James River across from Jamestown.

WESTERHOUSE HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON COUNTY: Although in a state of advanced deterioration, this compact farmhouse remains an outstanding and exceptionally rare example of Stuart-period Southern vernacular architecture. The massive exterior end pyramidal chimney with its steeply sloped tiled weatherings is an interesting regional feature.



"Wolftrap Farm, Isle of Wight County"

WOLFTRAP FARM, ISLE OF WIGHT COUNTY: Built in the second decade of the nineteenth century, and still in the possession of descendants of the original owners, Wolftrap is highly unusual for having a double tier of dormer windows on the front slope of its roof.

HICKORY HILL, HANOVER COUNTY: As the home of the Wickham family for five generations, Hickory Hill plantation is associated with significant episodes of Virginia social and military history. A large brick house and original outbuildings set in four acres of lawns and formal gardens form the core of this 3362 acre plantation.

CRADOCK HISTORIC DISTRICT, PORTSMOUTH: One of the first model communities developed by the Federal government, Cradock was built to accommodate the rapid influx of workers at the Norfolk Naval Shipyard during World War I.

BANK BUILDING, ACCOMACK COUNTY: Now owned and beautifully maintained by the Eastern Shore Chamber of Commerce, this is one of Virginia's finest high-style Federal period commercial buildings.



LANDSDOWNE, MIDDLESEX COUNTY: This two-story T-shaped early-Georgian mansion was originally owned by Ralph Wormley IV of Rosegill. Landsdowne was the home from 1791 until his death in 1792 of Arthur Lee, a major diplomatic figure during the War for Independence, who is buried nearby.



"Goose Creek Stone Bridge, Loudoun County"

NORTHERN VIRGINIA & CENTRAL PIEDMONT

GOOSE CREEK STONE BRIDGE, LOUDOUN COUNTY: Although no longer part of the highway system, this large, circa 1810, stone turnpike bridge is still owned and maintained by the Department of Highways.

WESTERN HOTEL, LYNCHBURG: Western Hotel stands as an important example of early commercial architecture, and the last of Lynchburg's many ante-bellum taverns and ordinaries.

POINT OF FORK PLANTATION, FLUVANNA COUNTY: Located on a strategic piece of land at the junction of the James and Rivanna Rivers, Point of Fork has significant military associations dating from the Indian occupation through the War of 1861-65. The large classical revival mansion dates from the 1820's.

HOPE DAWN, BEDFORD COUNTY: The unspoiled pastoral setting, finely-crafted details, and balanced proportions of this compact early nineteenth century brick farmhouse form a memorable image of rural life at its best in old Virginia.

LOCK-KEEPER'S HOUSE, GOOCHLAND COUNTY: A picturesque relic of the canal era, this frame structure was erected shortly after the Maidens to Lynchburg Portion of the James River and Kanawha Canal system was opened in 1836. It is the last remaining lock-keeper's house along the James River and probably in the State.

SOUTHSIDE

MUDDY CREEK MILL, CUMBERLAND COUNTY: Built during the latter-eighteenth century, Muddy Creek Mill produced flour and other water-ground commodities for both local consumption and trade along the James River Canal throughout the nineteenth and early-twentieth centuries.

VIOLET BANK, COLONIAL HEIGHTS: This architecturally sophisticated Federal-style plantation house served as Robert E. Lee's headquarters (June 8 - November 1, 1864) during the siege of Petersburg.

OAK HILL, COLONIAL HEIGHTS: Lafayette occupied the Oak Hill site following his retreat from Petersburg in 1781. The H-shaped plantation house, built 1825-26, is distinguished architecturally for its sophisticated octagonal front wing.

SCHWARTZ TAVERN, NOTTOWAY COUNTY: With most of its original fabric intact this rambling ninety-nine foot long structure is Blackstone's oldest building as well as being an interesting example of an early Southside ordinary.

BELLEVIEW, HENRY COUNTY: Belleview is still owned and maintained by the descendants of John Redd, for whom it was built in 1753. The plantation house, a rare survival for the period in south central Virginia, is distinguished for its finely detailed interiors.

VALLEY & MOUNTAIN

WHITE'S MILL, WASHINGTON COUNTY: Significant for incorporating various innovations in milling technology in a single structure, White's Mill (dating to 1796) is an excellently-preserved and very rare working example of the water-powered local grist mill formerly essential to the Virginia scene and economy (See photo page 3).

HOLLINS COLLEGE QUADRANGLE, ROANOKE COUNTY: The tree-shaded quadrangle of this, one of the South's most distinguished women's colleges, is defined by six stylistically varied nineteenth and early-twentieth century buildings reflecting the school's history and growth.

PATRICK COUNTY COURT HOUSE: The premier landmark of Patrick County since its completion in 1822, this red brick and white (now light beige) columned structure is a good example of simple Roman Revival public buildings inspired by the architecture of Thomas Jefferson.

SALEM PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, SALEM: Built in 1851-52, this handsomely detailed and well proportioned Greek Revival temple-form structure continues to function as Salem's chief Presbyterian church.



VALLEY RAILROAD STONE BRIDGE, AUGUSTA COUNTY: Built in 1884 as part of the now abandoned rail line from Staunton to Lexington, this four-span, stone masonry bridge is maintained by the Department of Highways as a scenic landmark.

MARTIN SITE, WYTHE COUNTY: The main occupation layer of this prehistoric Indian site contains pottery, stone and bone tools, refuse animal bones, and riverine shells. Under this layer, which dates from the Late Woodland Period, there is a succession of earlier levels. The oldest proven thus far dates from about 2000 B.C.

QUICKSBURG SITE, SHENANDOAH COUNTY: This is the site of a palisaded Indian village of the Late Woodland Period, which has also yielded evidence of earlier occupation.

MILEY SITE, SHENANDOAH COUNTY: A Late-Woodland Indian village of significant size existed at this site. Archaeological test excavations provide evidence of a palisade upperwards of 250' in diameter.



CARTER'S TAVERN, HALIFAX COUNTY: Long a familiar landmark on historic and scenic River Road, Carter's Tavern is a handsomely restored example of an early Southside Virginia ordinary.

HAMPTON INSTITUTE has been designated as a National Historic Landmark by the Secretary of the Interior. Most Virginia Landmarks are included in the National Register of Historic Places, and some seventy-seven of these have been singled out for special notice as premier landmarks of the highest stature. Hampton Institute now enters this distinguished list.

Citizens of Blackstone and Nottoway County have joined together in an effort to secure the preservation of SCHWARTZ TAVERN. The colonial building has recently been added to the Virginia Landmarks Register.

Through the active cooperation of the Richmond Redevelopment Authority, the Richmond Board of Architectural Review, the Historic Richmond Foundation, and the Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission, the preservation of the WOODWARD HOUSE, Richmond, has been assured. The eighteenth-century frame house is the last surviving structure at the formerly active maritime and commercial section of Rocketts. It was to have fallen victim to a road-widening project, now altered to avoid the building.

In keeping with the wishes of its late owner, Miss Carrie V. Archer, the ALLMAND-ARCHER HOUSE, Norfolk, has been deeded to the Historic Norfolk Foundation whose new president is George Kauffman.

BACON'S CASTLE, SURRY COUNTY, the latest acquisition of the APVA, is now opened to the public on weekends.

The VHLC staff is working closely with the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament, owners of BELMEAD, Powhatan County, regarding the future of this historic property. The Gothic Revival mansion was designed by Alexander Jackson Davis.

BENTFIELD, Brunswick County, a Federal style plantation house, has been gutted by fire. Only three walls remain of the property which was being restored by its owners.

The fate of BOYKIN'S TAVERN, Isle of Wight County remains undecided. Local preservationists are urging that the building be restored for use as a county office building.

The FARMER'S BANK, Petersburg, an APVA property, is now part of the Petersburg Tour and is open to the public on a regular basis.

THE FLUVANNA COUNTY COURTHOUSE, Palmyra, is being restored under the direction of Milton Grigg, F.A.I.A.

The Society of the Descendants of Peter Francisco has acquired a 99-year lease on the PETER FRANCISCO HOUSE (formerly Locust Grove), Buckingham County. The Society plans to restore the home of this folk hero of the Revolutionary War era.



"Dovecote at Hickory Hill, Hanover County"

The CARLYLE HOUSE, Alexandria, is undergoing comprehensive restoration under terms of a project being directed by Everett Fauber, F.A.I.A.

The LYCEUM, ALEXANDRIA has been restored and now serves as the city's Bicentennial Center.

GREEN SPRINGS HISTORIC DISTRICT, Louisa County. Governor Miles E. Godwin has announced that planned construction of a State penal facility within this National Historic Landmark district will not take place.

The Chesapeake and Ohio Railroad is to remove its offices from Richmond's monumental Beaux-Arts MAIN STREET STATION, thus adding additional uncertainty to the structure's future.

The Historic Petersburg Foundation has sold MAYFIELD, Dinwiddie County, now protected by easement, for use as a private residence.

COMMISSION AND STAFF APPOINTMENTS

VHLC members Frederick Herman and James R. Short have been reappointed to the Commission for four year terms. Mr. Short, Vice President for Education and Director of Interpretation at Colonial Williamsburg, is currently serving as a member of the Council of the Institute of Early American History and Culture. He is the author and editor of a number of historical and preservation-related materials, and has taught at the University of Tennessee, and was an historian at the Virginia State Library before joining Colonial Williamsburg in 1955.

Mr. Upton is an architectural historian with education and experience in the areas of folklore and vernacular architecture. A graduate of Colgate University, he has completed all requirements, except the dissertation, for the Ph.D. in American Civilization at Brown University. His experience includes field work as an archaeologist, architectural historian, and architectural consultant at a number of colonial New England sites, notably Mott Farm House in Portsmouth, Rhode Island, and Plimoth Plantation, Plymouth, Massachusetts. He has lectured on folk architecture at Brown University and the University of New Hampshire.



"Muddy Creek Mill, Cumberland County"

Dr. Herman is a graduate of the College of William and Mary and received his Ph.D. from the Fletcher School at Tufts University. He has taught at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Old Dominion University, and Virginia Wesleyan College, and is a practising architect in Norfolk. A member of the American Institute of Architects and the Royal Society of Architects Historians, Mr. Herman has recently become chairman of the VHLC.

Corrine Sue Pellegrin and Dell Upton have joined the VHLC staff. Miss Pellegrin, previously employed by the Commission during the summer of 1973, graduated from the College of William and Mary (June 1974) with a B.A. in Art History. Her duties as Registrar or keeper of the Virginia Landmarks Register include responsibility for correspondence concerning nominations to the National Register and with the owners or trustees of Registered Virginia Landmarks.

LANDMARKS AND SITES CONCERNING THE VIRGINIA SIGNERS OF THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE

CARTER BRAXTON

Newington Plantation (site), King and Queen County (birthplace)
Elsing Green, King William County (home)
Chericoke (on the Pamunkey River), King William County (home and grave)

BENJAMIN HARRISON

Berkeley Plantation, Charles City County (home and grave)

THOMAS JEFFERSON

Shadwell (site), Albemarle County (birthplace)
Tuckahoe, Goochland County (boyhood home)
Poplar Forest, Bedford County (retreat)
Monticello, Albemarle County (home and grave)

RICHARD HENRY LEE

Stratford Hall, Westmoreland County (birthplace)
Chantilly (site), Westmoreland County (home)
Burnt House Field (near Stratford and Chantilly), Westmoreland County (grave)

FRANCIS LIGHTFOOT LEE

Stratford Hall, Westmoreland County (birthplace)
Menokin (ruins), Richmond County (home)
Mount Airy, Richmond County (home of wife and grave)

THOMAS NELSON, JR.

Nelson House, Yorktown (home)
Offley House (site), Hanover County (home)
Grace Church, Yorktown (grave)

GEORGE WYTHE

Chesterville Plantation (site), Hampton (home and traditional birthplace)
Wythe House, Williamsburg (home)
St. John's Church, Richmond (city) (grave)

All of the Virginia Signers and other leaders of that generation known to history as the Virginia Founding Fathers would have some identification with the public buildings at Williamsburg, St. John's Church in Richmond, and their respective county courthouses.

The Virginia State Library has published Virginia History in Documents, 1621-1788, one of the most handsomely-done and useful publications with a Bicentennial orientation that has come to the attention of the editor of Notes. The facsimile documents and accompanying text are certain to be adopted for use in the schools of the Commonwealth — both during and following the upcoming era of National celebration. They are available for sale, at five dollars the set, from leading book stores, or directly from the Virginia State Library, Richmond 23219.

Among the documents included are Patrick Henry's own copy of his resolutions against the Stamp Act; a copy of the Virginia Bill of Rights in the hand of the author, George Mason; the manuscript of Virginia's first constitution, adopted in 1776; and the ordinance by which the state ratified the federal Constitution.

Other documents in the set are the "ordinance" of the London Company establishing a General Assembly at Jamestown, thus creating the first representative legislature in the New World; Nathaniel Bacon's "Declaration" against the

Royal Governor, Sir William Berkeley; the call issued in May 1774 and signed by George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, and twenty-three other patriot leaders, that led to the meeting of Virginia's first revolutionary convention; and the resolution, adopted by the fifth convention in Williamsburg in May 1776 that led the Continental Congress to declare American independence.

The facsimile documents are reproduced from the originals in four colors. Six of the originals are in the Archives Division of the Virginia State Library; two of the others are in the possession of the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation; and one each is in the Library of Congress and the National Archives, Washington, D. C.

The ten facsimiles are accompanied by an illustrated booklet explaining the background and meaning of the documents. The booklet also includes the complete text of each document. Both facsimiles and booklet are packaged in an attractive folder in two colors. The documents were selected and the booklet was prepared by the staff of the Publications Branch of the Virginia State Library.

Kingsmill Plantation proper has become the focus for the VHLC archaeological program at the large tract being developed near Jamestown. Work was begun during the summer in an out-building area one-half mile west of the mansion. The remains of a pre-1650 settlement and an eighteenth-century structure of unusual proportions were uncovered by student archaeologists under the field supervision of David Hazzard. Supervised training of younger archaeologists at sites ranging over a wide time period, and representative of the smallest to the largest type plantation and related service facilities, remains one of the most significant accomplishments of the Kingsmill project.

During the recently concluded operations, the outlines of four large seventeenth century structures were traced. One of these was evidently of puncheon construction, that is, the main timber and wall studs were imbedded in the ground. The late-colonial building included

twenty small cellars, backfilled about the time of the Revolution. Two dozen Virginia half-pennies (1773) and a quantity of iron agricultural tools were found in the cellar fill.

The Richmond Educational Television station WVEC is currently producing a half-hour program on the archaeology at Kingsmill. Excavation of the Colonel Thomas Pettus site (1972-73) and the first phase of the recently concluded work near the Kingsmill mansion site will be featured. The Kingsmill developers, Busch Properties, Inc., have finished construction of a park at the Pettus site which provides for the preservation and display of archaeological remains indicating the outlines and arrangement of house and outbuildings (see photograph). Preservation and integration into the development scheme of such materials is another important byproduct of the VHLC-developer program at Kingsmill.



"Park at Pettus Site"

VHLC archaeologist Alain Outlaw, in cooperation with the Williamsburg chapter of the Archaeological Society of Virginia, salvaged a late-eighteenth century site near the Quaker Meeting House lot, York County. The excavation was paid for with highway funds and was undertaken to record archaeological remains before the construction of a cloverleaf for Interstate Highway 64. The ASV chapter plans to prepare an exhibit of the artifacts recovered from the brick basement and kiln.

VHLC archaeologists carried out an unusual excavation in early June, salvaging the base of the seventeenth century brick-lined well below the water level in the James River at Swann's Point, Surry County. Most of the fill portion of the well had been lost through erosion, but the heavy-timbered frame base of the well was recovered.

Later in June the same staff members, the Messrs Kelso, Chappell, Herman, and Hazzard, assisted Mrs. Joseph B. Mitchell in excavation of a circa 1690 refuse deposit at Nomini Plantation, Westmoreland County. The deposit included earthen-ware probably manufactured at the Morgan Jones Kiln of 1677 (see Notes #8). VHLC archaeologists Kelso and Chappell have completed their report on the Jones kiln at Glebe Harbor, Westmoreland County, tentatively scheduled for publication in the 1974 edition of Historical Archaeology.

The eighteenth-century riverport village of Hanover Town (see Virginia Register section in this issue of Notes) along with the Governor's Land Archaeological District discussed in the last issue of Notes are examples of the significant archaeological complexes that the VHLC is eager to locate and preserve until competent excavation can be undertaken.



"Post Holes indicating lines of 17th & 18th century structures at Kingsmill"



VIRGINIA HISTORIC LANDMARKS
COMMISSION
Morson's Row
221 Governor Street
Richmond, Virginia 23219



"A Classical Ruin, Gloucester County – see lead article"
Courtesy Daily Press, Newport News, Va.